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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/764,543	01/27/2004	Masafuku Akatsu	Q79605	9600
23373 7590 12/11/2007 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				
EXAMINER DABNEY, PHYLESHA LARVINIA				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2614				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/11/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/764,543

Applicant(s)

AKATSU, MASAFUKU

Examiner

Phylesha L. Dabney

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11, 14 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 10, 12 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 17 November 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8, 11, and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Muzumdar et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,375,584).

Regarding claims 1, 11, and 15, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set comprising: a telephone main body (12) comprising a handset placing unit (fig. 1); an interchangeable dial button unit, interchangeable line button unit, and an interchangeable display unit (figs. 1-22) structured so that said interchangeable dial button unit, said interchangeable line button unit and said interchangeable display unit are detachable from said telephone body from a top surface side of said telephone main body without disassembly of said telephone main body (via cables, plugs, and receptacles (col. 5 line 48 through col. 7 line 28)).

Regarding claim 2, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said interchangeable display unit comprises a liquid crystal display panel (34).

Regarding claim 3, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said interchangeable display unit comprises a dummy (figs. 1-22; col. 7 lines 29-44).

Regarding claim 4, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said interchangeable line button unit comprises a plurality of line selection buttons and a plurality of light emitting diodes corresponding to said line selection buttons (col. 8 lines 54-60).

Regarding claims 5 and 7, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 4, wherein said telephone main body is capable of being attached with another interchangeable line button unit (24, 48) different in number of said line selection buttons from said interchangeable line button unit (24, 48).

Regarding claim 6, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said interchangeable line button unit comprises a plurality of line selection buttons (24, 48) and a liquid crystal display panel (34).

Regarding claim 8, Muzumdar teaches a key telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said telephone main body is capable of being attached with another interchangeable dial unit different in specification from said interchangeable dial unit (col. 7 lines 29-44).

Regarding claim 14, see the rejections of claims 2-3 and 5-8.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 10, and 12-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the reference fails to teach *a handset placing unit* in the telephone main body, the Examiner disagrees.

Upon further review, the Examiner noticed that the telephone main body includes the base (12) including a placing unit as shown by figs. 17A, 17B. As shown in fig. 17A, the main housing portion (16) includes handset placing unit (cut-outs associated with main housing, 16) for which the interchangeable unit(s) can be positioned thereon and further fig. 17B shows that the PC board(s) are removable without disassembling the base (12). Therefore, the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phylesha L. Dabney whose telephone number is 571-272-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-4 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:
(703) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "Proposed" or "Draft" when submitting an informal amendment.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

December 6, 2007


PLD


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